

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to district school boards; amending s.
 3 1001.372, F.S.; clarifying that district school board
 4 meeting agenda items may be proposed by the district
 5 school superintendent or a member of the board;
 6 requiring district school boards to convene at least
 7 one regular meeting each quarter within a school year
 8 which begins no earlier than 5:00 p.m. and to create
 9 criteria for convening such a meeting; amending s.
 10 1001.41, F.S.; requiring a district school board to
 11 exercise its general powers after considering
 12 recommendations made by a school board member;
 13 requiring a district school board to allow a public
 14 school student whose parent has died to remain
 15 enrolled in the school he or she was attending at the
 16 time of the parent's death if requirements are met;
 17 amending s. 1001.42, F.S.; providing additional
 18 purposes for which an internal auditor may be
 19 employed; amending s. 1006.07, F.S.; defining and
 20 distinguishing emergency lockdown drills from
 21 emergency evacuation drills; requiring that emergency
 22 lockdown drills be conducted at least as often as
 23 emergency evacuation drills; encouraging local law
 24 enforcement officers or fire officials to participate
 25 in and to review at least one emergency lockdown drill
 26 at each school each year; requiring a designated staff
 27 member to submit an after-drill report to the school
 28 district after an emergency drill; providing

29 requirements for the after-drill report; providing an
 30 effective date.

31

32 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

33 Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 1001.372, Florida
 34 Statutes, is amended to read:

35 1001.372 District school board meetings.—

36 (1) REGULAR AND SPECIAL MEETINGS.—

37 (a) The district school board, after considering agenda
 38 items proposed by the district school superintendent or a member
 39 of the board, shall hold not less than one regular meeting each
 40 month for the transaction of business according to a schedule
 41 arranged by the district school board. The district school board
 42 shall convene at least one regular meeting each quarter within a
 43 school year which begins no earlier than 5:00 p.m. The district
 44 school board shall create written criteria for convening such a
 45 quarterly meeting.

46 (b) The district school board ~~and~~ shall convene in a
 47 special meeting ~~sessions~~ when called by the district school
 48 superintendent or by the district school superintendent on
 49 request of the chair of the district school board, or on request
 50 of a majority of the members of the district school board. If
 51 the district school superintendent does not call a special
 52 meeting when requested to do so, as prescribed in this
 53 paragraph, such a meeting may be called by the chair of the
 54 district school board or by a majority of the members of the
 55 district school board by giving 2 days' written notice of the
 56 time and purpose of the meeting to all members and to the

57 district school superintendent. An action; ~~provided that actions~~
 58 taken at a special meeting has ~~meetings shall have~~ the same
 59 force and effect as if taken at a regular meeting, and; ~~and~~
 60 ~~provided further that in the event the district school~~
 61 ~~superintendent should fail to call a special meeting when~~
 62 ~~requested to do so, as prescribed herein, such a meeting may be~~
 63 ~~called by the chair of the district school board or by a~~
 64 ~~majority of the members of the district school board by giving 2~~
 65 ~~days' written notice of the time and purpose of the meeting to~~
 66 ~~all members and to the district school superintendent, in which~~
 67 ~~event~~ the minutes of the meeting must ~~shall~~ set forth the facts
 68 regarding the procedure in calling the meeting and the reason
 69 the meeting was called. The minutes must ~~therefor and shall~~ be
 70 signed ~~either~~ by the chair or by a majority of the members of
 71 the district school board.

72 Section 2. Section 1001.41, Florida Statutes, is amended
 73 to read:

74 1001.41 General powers of district school board.—The
 75 district school board, after considering recommendations
 76 submitted by the district school superintendent or a member of
 77 the board, shall exercise the following general powers:

78 (1) Determine policies and programs consistent with state
 79 law and rule deemed necessary by it for the efficient operation
 80 and general improvement of the district school system.

81 (2) Adopt rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to
 82 implement the provisions of law conferring duties upon it to
 83 supplement those prescribed by the State Board of Education and
 84 the Commissioner of Education.

85 (3) Prescribe and adopt standards and policies to provide
86 each student the opportunity to receive a complete education
87 program, including language arts, mathematics, science, social
88 studies, health, physical education, foreign languages, and the
89 arts, as defined by the Sunshine State Standards. The standards
90 and policies must emphasize integration and reinforcement of
91 reading, writing, and mathematics skills across all subjects,
92 including career awareness, career exploration, and career and
93 technical education.

94 (4) Contract, sue, and be sued. The district school board
95 shall constitute the contracting agent for the district school
96 system.

97 (5) Perform duties and exercise those responsibilities
98 that are assigned to it by law or by rules of the State Board of
99 Education or the Commissioner of Education and, in addition
100 thereto, those that it may find to be necessary for the
101 improvement of the district school system in carrying out the
102 purposes and objectives of the education code.

103 (6) Assign students to schools. Notwithstanding any
104 provision of law to the contrary, if a parent of a public school
105 student has died while the student is attending a public school,
106 the district school board must provide the student the option to
107 remain at that school until the student is promoted to middle
108 school or high school or graduates from high school, as
109 applicable. However, this option is unavailable to a student
110 who has been suspended in school, more than once; expelled; or
111 suspended out of school, from that school.

112 (7) Enter into agreements for accepting credit card,

113 charge card, and debit card payments as compensation for goods,
 114 services, tuition, and fees, as authorized by law.

115 Section 3. Paragraph (1) of subsection (12) of section
 116 1001.42, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

117 1001.42 Powers and duties of district school board.—The
 118 district school board, acting as a board, shall exercise all
 119 powers and perform all duties listed below:

120 (12) FINANCE.—Take steps to assure students adequate
 121 educational facilities through the financial procedure
 122 authorized in chapters 1010 and 1011 and as prescribed below:

123 (1) Internal auditor.—May employ an internal auditor to
 124 perform ongoing financial verification of the financial records
 125 of the school district and such other audits and reviews as the
 126 district school board directs for the purpose of overseeing
 127 school district resources and determining compliance with
 128 applicable laws and district school board-approved policies,
 129 procedures, and contracts. The internal auditor shall report
 130 directly to the district school board or its designee.

131 Section 4. Subsections (4) and (5) of section 1006.07,
 132 Florida Statutes, are reordered and amended, and subsection (6)
 133 of that section is amended, to read:

134 1006.07 District school board duties relating to student
 135 discipline and school safety.—The district school board shall
 136 provide for the proper accounting for all students, for the
 137 attendance and control of students at school, and for proper
 138 attention to health, safety, and other matters relating to the
 139 welfare of students, including:

140 (5)~~(4)~~ EMERGENCY DRILLS; EMERGENCY PROCEDURES.—

141 (a) Formulate and prescribe policies and procedures for
142 emergency lockdown drills, emergency evacuation drills, and ~~for~~
143 actual emergencies, including, but not limited to, fires,
144 natural disasters, weapon-use and hostage situations, and bomb
145 threats, for all the public schools of the district which
146 comprise grades K-12. District school board policies must ~~shall~~
147 include commonly used alarm system responses for specific types
148 of emergencies and verification by each school that drills have
149 been provided as required by law and fire protection codes. As
150 used in this paragraph, the term "evacuation drill" means an
151 activity in which students and faculty practice the safest and
152 quickest way to evacuate a school facility in case of an
153 emergency in which evacuation is generally the safest option,
154 such as in the case of a fire. As used in this paragraph, the
155 term "lockdown drill" means an activity in which students and
156 faculty practice securing a school facility or rooms within the
157 facility in case of an emergency in which hiding from a hostile
158 danger is generally deemed safer than evacuating the building,
159 such as in the case of a tornado or the presence of an armed
160 person who is threatening the safety of the students or
161 employees of a school.

162 1. The policies and procedures must require that emergency
163 lockdown drills be conducted at least as often as emergency
164 evacuation drills. This subparagraph does not require an
165 increase in the total number of emergency drills conducted at a
166 school each year.

167 2. Local law enforcement officers or fire officials are
168 encouraged to participate in, and to review, at least one

169 emergency lockdown drill at each school each year. After a
 170 drill, participating law enforcement officers or fire officials
 171 are encouraged to submit recommendations to the school on how it
 172 can improve its safety procedures in case of an emergency
 173 lockdown.

174 3. Each school shall designate the principal or a member
 175 of its staff as the person responsible for overseeing a school's
 176 emergency drills. Before an emergency drill is conducted, the
 177 designated staff member shall review the appropriate, most
 178 recent after-drill report required under subparagraph 4.

179 4. After a drill is completed, the designated staff member
 180 shall electronically submit to the school district an after-
 181 drill report that details the specific drill that was conducted.
 182 Such report must include positive observations and
 183 recommendations for improvement offered by the school or
 184 participating law enforcement officers or fire officials, if
 185 any.

186 (b) ~~The district school board shall~~ Establish model
 187 emergency management and emergency preparedness procedures for
 188 the following life-threatening emergencies:

- 189 1. Weapon-use and hostage situations.
- 190 2. Hazardous materials or toxic chemical spills.
- 191 3. Weather emergencies, including hurricanes, tornadoes,
 192 and severe storms.
- 193 4. Exposure as a result of a manmade emergency.

194 (4)-(5) EDUCATIONAL SERVICES IN DETENTION FACILITIES.-Offer
 195 educational services to minors who have not graduated from high
 196 school and eligible students with disabilities under the age of

197 | 22 who have not graduated with a standard diploma or its
 198 | equivalent who are detained in a county or municipal detention
 199 | facility, as defined in s. 951.23. These educational services
 200 | must ~~shall~~ be based upon the estimated length of time the
 201 | student will be in the facility and the student's current level
 202 | of functioning. District school superintendents or their
 203 | designees shall be notified by the county sheriff or chief
 204 | correctional officer, or his or her designee, upon the
 205 | assignment of a student under the age of 21 to the facility. A
 206 | cooperative agreement with the district school board and
 207 | applicable law enforcement units shall be developed to address
 208 | the notification requirement and the provision of educational
 209 | services to these students.

210 | (6) SAFETY AND SECURITY BEST PRACTICES.—Use the Safety and
 211 | Security Best Practices developed by the Office of Program
 212 | Policy Analysis and Government Accountability to conduct a self-
 213 | assessment of the school districts' current safety and security
 214 | practices. Based on these self-assessment findings, the district
 215 | school superintendent shall provide recommendations to the
 216 | district school board which identify strategies and activities
 217 | that the district school board should implement in order to
 218 | improve school safety and security. ~~Annually~~ Each district
 219 | school board must annually receive the self-assessment results
 220 | at a publicly noticed district school board meeting to provide
 221 | the public an opportunity to hear the district school board
 222 | members discuss and take action on the report findings. Each
 223 | district school superintendent shall report the self-assessment
 224 | results and school board action to the commissioner within 30

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225 | days after the district school board meeting.

226 | Section 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2013.